



The Public Service Commission State of South Carolina

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Administrative Department
Phone: (803) 896-5100
Fax: (803) 896-5246

March 21, 2019

Dear Mr. James Anthony Ward, President,

This is to acknowledge receipt of your Letter of Protest/Comments to the Public Service Commission of South Carolina. Your Letter of Protest/Comments will be placed in the Protest File of the Docket listed below and on the Commission's Website at www.psc.sc.gov.

- Docket No. 2018-318-E - Application of Duke Energy Progress, LLC for Adjustments in Electric Rate Schedules and Tariffs and Request for an Accounting Order

A Protestant is an individual objecting on the ground of private or public interest to the approval of an Application, Petition, Motion or other matters which the Commission may have under consideration. A Protestant may offer sworn testimony but cannot cross-examine witnesses offered by other parties.

According to the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, filing a Protest does not make you a Party of Record. A Protestant desiring to become an Intervenor (i.e., a Party of Record) in a proceeding before the Commission may file a Petition for Intervention within the time prescribed by the Commission.

You can follow this Docket and other daily filings made at the Commission by subscribing to the Commission's Email Subscriptions at this link: <https://dms.psc.sc.gov/Web/Email>; or you can follow the individual Docket at the link listed below:

Docket No. 2018-318-E - Application of Duke Energy Progress, LLC for Adjustments in Electric Rate Schedules and Tariffs and Request for an Accounting Order - <https://dms.psc.sc.gov/Web/Dockets/Detail/116871>

If we may be of further assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Becky Latimer
Clerks Office/Administrative Coordinator

Public Service Commission of South Carolina
803-896-5100

Sign up for Meeting Agenda Alerts: Text [PSCAGENDAS](https://dms.psc.sc.gov/Web/Email) to [39492](https://dms.psc.sc.gov/Web/Email)



Florence County Farm Bureau

Florence, South Carolina 29504

Fax to: 803-896-5188

March 13, 2019

Mrs. Lynn Good, President and CEO
Duke Energy

- Certified Letter -

Charlotte, NC 28202

Commissioners:

Howard

Ervin

Randall

Dear Mrs. Good,

Florence County farmers are concerned to hear about your request for rate increases and additional meter charges. Florence County Farm Bureau would like to know how many agriculture meters there are in Duke Energy Progress territory that will be affected by the new base rate meter charge. We would also like to know the amount of income that will be generated from agricultural enterprises as a result of the fee increase. A farming operation will typically have many meters, quite unlike the standard home where there is only one meter. We do ask that you provide a prompt response since the Public Service Commission will be meeting on April 1, 2019.

For three out of four years, farmers in the Pee Dee Region and much of the state, have experienced devastating harvest conditions. These included the flood of 2015, Hurricane Matthew in 2016, and more recently the two hurricanes in 2018, Florence and Michael. As if the two hurricanes were not bad enough, the rain through the 2018 harvest season forced farmers to leave crops in the fields with no hope of harvesting. Florence County Farmers have experienced 23.8 million dollars in economic losses while estimates show that the Pee Dee Region has experienced over 118 million dollars in economic losses for the 2018 growing season. This results in 2018 being one of the worst production years on record for farmers in our region.

As a farmer organization that represents all of agriculture, we are concerned that the fee that you are requesting will have a detrimental impact on our farmers, and when you consider the state of the rural economy, the timing of this increase is particularly harmful.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James Anthony Ward".

James Anthony Ward, President
Florence County Farm Bureau

CC: Chairman Comer H. Randall, SC Public Service Commission
South Carolina Public Service Commission Commissioners:
Commissioner, G. O'Neal Hamilton
Commissioner, John E. Howard
Commissioner, Thomas J. Ervin
Commissioner, Justin T. Williams

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Mr. Kent C. Caudle

Mr. H. Steven DeBerry, IV

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Mr. James Schofield

Mr. Willard Dorriety, Jr.

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Senator Ronnie A. Sabb

Senator Kent M. Williams

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President Harry Ott, South Carolina Farm Bureau

Mr. Gary Spires, Director, Government Relations, South Carolina Farm Bureau